



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,856	10/11/2001	Ali O. Gure	LUD-5480.2 DIV	2513
24972	7590	02/17/2004	EXAMINER	
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI, LLP 666 FIFTH AVE NEW YORK, NY 10103-3198			UNGAR, SUSAN NMN	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1642		

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/975,856	GURE ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Susan Ungar	1642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 October 2001.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 20-24 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 20-24 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

Art Unit:1642

1. Claims 20-24 are pending in the application and are currently under prosecution.
2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I. Claims 20, 21, 23 are drawn to an isolated antibody which specifically binds to a protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 as claimed in claims 20 and 21, which specifically binds to a protein encoded by nucleotides 1-330 concatenated to nucleotides 467-576 of SEQ ID NO:1 as claimed in claim 23, classified in Class 530, subclass 387.1.

Group II. Claims 20, 21 are drawn to an isolated antibody which specifically binds a protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:2, classified in Class 530, subclass 387.1.

Group III. Claim 24 is drawn to a method of determining expression of an SSX4 gene comprising contacting a sample with an isolated antibody which specifically binds to a protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:1, classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.

Group IV. Claim 24 is drawn to a method of determining expression of an SSX5 gene comprising contacting a sample with an isolated antibody which specifically binds to a protein encoded by SEQ ID NO:2 classified in Class 435, subclass 7.1.

It is noted that claim 20, limitation (iii) is drawn to “an isolated antibody which specifically binds to a protein an isolated nucleic acid molecule having nucleotides 1-330 of SEQ ID NO;1, concatenated to nucleotides 467-576 of SEQ ID NO:1. It is unclear whether this claim limitation is drawn to an antibody that binds to a protein or to a nucleic acid, or whether a nucleic acid is being claimed. Thus, this limitation has not been included in the instant restriction. Upon amendment to clarify the claim

Art Unit:1642

limitation, restriction of the claim limitation will be restricted into a new group or rejoined to an existing group.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I-II as disclosed are biologically and chemically distinct, unrelated in structure and function, made by and used in different methods and are therefore distinct inventions.

Inventions III-IV are materially distinct methods which differ at least in objectives, method steps, reagents and/or dosages and/or schedules used, response variables, and criteria for success.

The inventions of Groups I and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (i) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (ii) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product [see *MPEP § 806.05(h)*]. In the instant case the antibody product as claimed can be used in a materially different process such as production of an anti-idiotypic antibody.

The inventions of Groups II and IV are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (i) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (ii) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product [see *MPEP § 806.05(h)*]. In the instant case the

Art Unit:1642

antibody product as claimed can be used in a materially different process such as production of an anti-idiotypic antibody.

The inventions of Groups I and IV are not at all related because the antibody of Group I is not used in any of the methods of Groups IV.

The inventions of Groups II and III are not at all related because the antibody of Group II is not used in any of the methods of Groups III.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and/or recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Art Unit: 1642

7. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

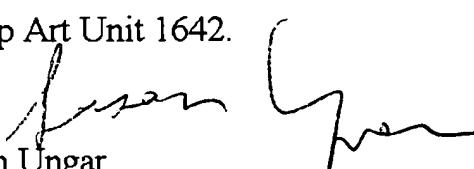
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Ungar, PhD whose telephone number is (703) 305-2181. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yvette Eyler, can be reached at 571-272-0871. The fax phone number for this Art Unit is (703) 305-7230.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Effective, February 7, 1998, the Group and/or Art Unit location of your application in the PTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 1642.


Susan Ungar
Primary Patent Examiner
February 9, 2004